

# BETTER BUS STOPS



## Better Bus Stops 2024 highlights

Paul Lamb and Berry Farrington, Engineering & Facilities

Metropolitan Council

March 12, 2025

# Bus stop improvement examples



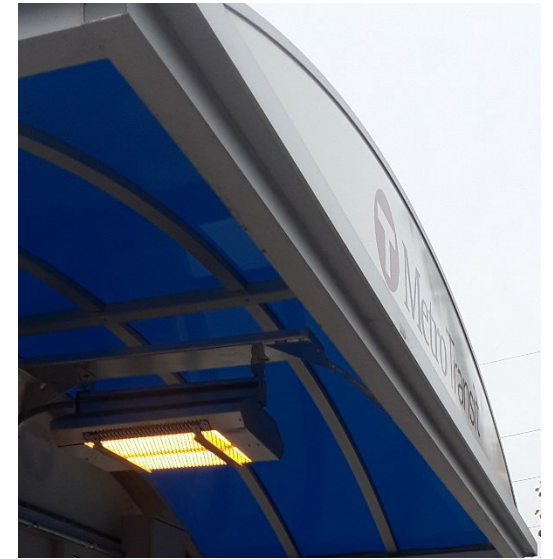
**Accessible boarding area**



**Bus Shelter**



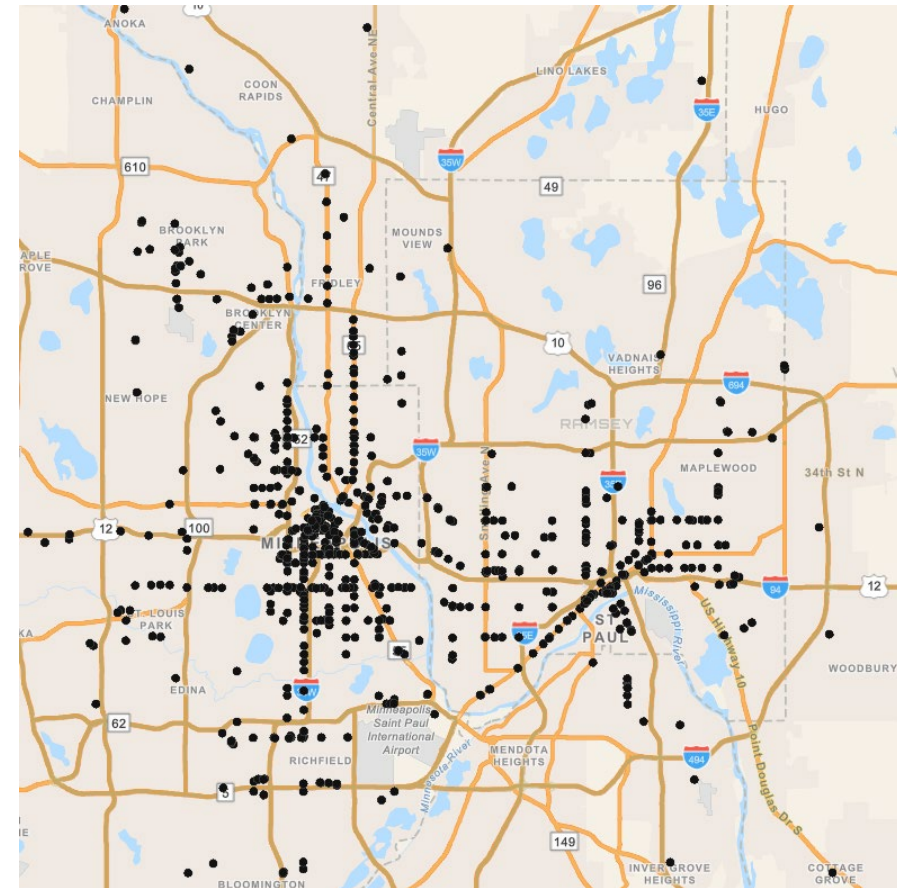
**Shelter Light**



**Shelter Heater**

# Metro Transit regular route bus stops and shelters

- Bus stops: 9,000
- Bus shelters: 800
- Shelter lights: 330
- Shelter heaters: 140



Map of Metro Transit bus shelters

# 2024 Bus Stop Capital Improvements

Improvement	2024
✓ Accessible boarding area	81
✓ Added shelter	6
✓ Replaced aged shelter	28
✓ Added light, heat	37

These do not include METRO projects such as B Line, E Line or Gold Line



# Construction highlights

- Solar lighting expansion
- Digital advertising shelters



## Bus shelter maintenance in 2024

- Starting in 2024, an online form makes it easier for people to share feedback on repairs & cleanliness
- 1,070 issues at bus shelters were reported last year by community members or Metro Transit staff
- On average, issues were addressed within 2.7 days
- 94% of bus shelters were cleaned at least once a week
- 92% of reported graffiti incidents at bus shelters were removed within one week, and most were typically removed within 2 days

[metrotransit.org/cleanliness-facilities-form](https://metrotransit.org/cleanliness-facilities-form)

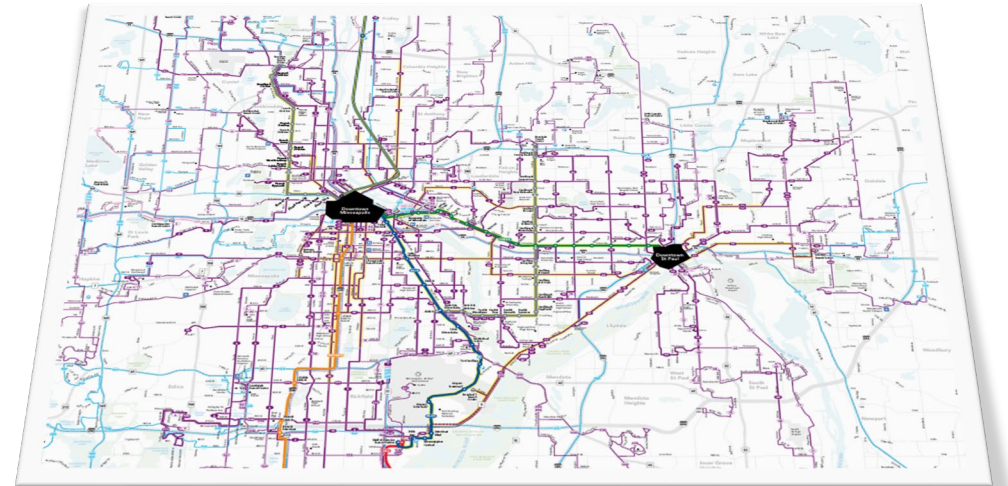
The screenshot shows a mobile web interface for reporting issues. At the top is a blue navigation bar with the Metro Transit logo (a red circle with a white 'T') and several utility icons. Below the navigation bar is a header section with a blue background and the text 'Customer Experience'. The main content area is white and features the title 'Cleanliness and facilities form' followed by a descriptive paragraph: 'Use this form to report issues or concerns with cleanliness at facilities or on Metro Transit vehicles or property.' Below this is a legend indicating that a red asterisk (\*) denotes a required field. The form itself is partially visible, showing a dropdown menu for 'Issue or incident' with a red asterisk to its right, and a text input field for 'Boarding location / Stop number'.

# Bus Stop Improvement Guidelines update

With 9,000 bus stops, Metro Transit uses [guidelines](#) to consistently prioritize investments across the system and to communicate decision-making criteria with the community.

- Adding bus shelters
- Improving shelters with light or heat
- Replacing shelters

[metrotransit.org/bus-stop-improvement-guidelines](https://metrotransit.org/bus-stop-improvement-guidelines)



**Transit System Map**

# New Shelter Guideline

- Bus stops with 20 or more daily boardings may be considered for a bus shelter
- Prioritize based equity considerations, transit transfers, and community destinations
- Approximately 220 bus stops with 20+ boardings and without a shelter, based on existing ridership





## Add Light Guideline

- Add light to bus shelters where a source of power is readily available
  - Solar
  - Connect to METRO station
  - Connect to streetlight
- Continue to prioritize where there are more customers during dark hours, and personal safety
- Approximately 150 shelters to consider adding light



# Add Heat Guideline

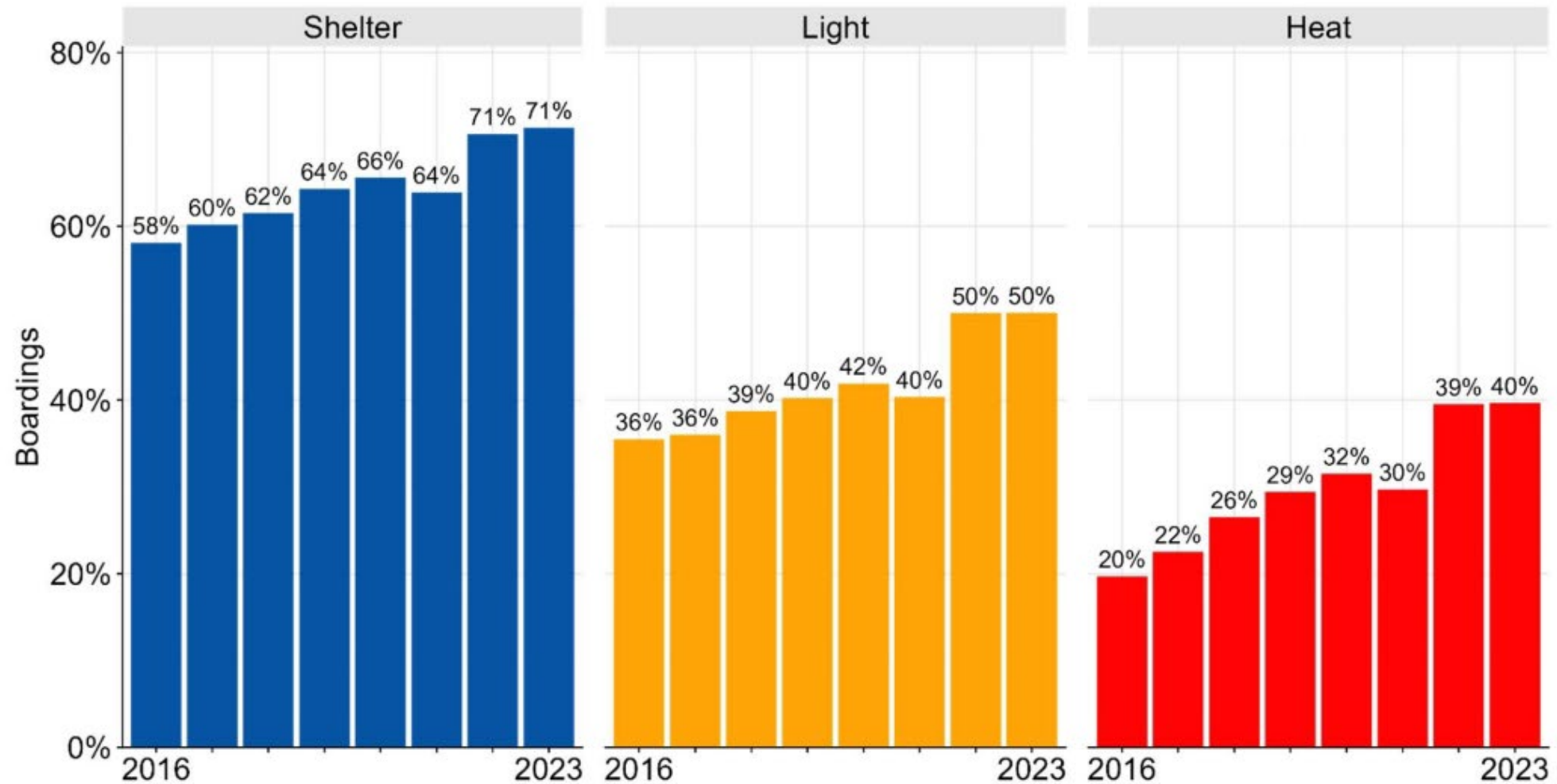
- Focus heaters to transfer points with 70+ daily boardings
  - Service design puts customers at the bus stop
  - Permanence of electrical connections
  - Opportunities to share electrical with METRO stations
- Approximately 60 locations to consider adding heat



Topic	Previous Guidelines	Updated Guidelines
New Shelter	30+ daily boardings, prioritized by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boardings</li> <li>• More households without cars</li> <li>• Community destinations</li> </ul>	20+ daily boardings, prioritized by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Major transfer points</li> <li>• Equity considerations</li> <li>• Community destinations</li> </ul>
<b>Remove Shelter, permanently</b> <i>due to low usage and to conserve maintenance resources</i>	< 15 daily boardings	<b>&lt; 10 daily boardings and no planned service improvements</b>
Add Light	Where there are more customers when it's dark, or where there are documented personal safety concerns	<b>Where a source of power is readily available,</b> with more customers when it's dark, or where there are documented personal safety concerns
Add Heat	100+ daily boardings	<b>Major transfer point &amp; 70+ daily boardings</b>
Accessible Boarding Pads	not addressed	Constructed annually as part of Metro Transit's ongoing capital program and ADA responsibilities

## Guideline Revision Summary

# Availability of Shelter, Light and Heat: 2016 through Winter 2023-2024



An increasing percent of riders wait for the bus with shelters, light, and heat

## 2025 and beyond

- More bus riders will have access to shelters, shelter lighting and heaters
  - Better Bus Stops' updated guidelines
  - BRT expansion
- Continue coordinating bus stop improvements with other agencies' roadway projects
- Continue advancing accessibility improvements



# Thank You

[metrotransit.org/better-bus-stops](https://metrotransit.org/better-bus-stops)

**Berry Farrington**

*[berry.farrington@metrotransit.org](mailto:berry.farrington@metrotransit.org)*

612-349-7378

**Paul Lamb**

*[paul.lamb@metrotransit.org](mailto:paul.lamb@metrotransit.org)*

612-349-7653